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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,133	06/20/2003	Douglas E. Lecrone	07072-157002	5594
26161	7590	04/12/2005	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON PC 225 FRANKLIN ST BOSTON, MA 02110			MOAZZAMI, NASSER G	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2187	

DATE MAILED: 04/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/600,133

Applicant(s)

LECRONE ET AL.

Examiner

Nasser G Moazzami

Art Unit

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 37-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 37-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 June 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/09/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The Information Disclosure Statement submitted by applicant on 03/09/2005 has been considered. Please see attached PTO-1449.
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### ***Drawings***

2. This application has been filed with informal drawings, which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 37 and 45 are objected to because of the following informalities:  
In claim 37, line 4 "the second" should be change to --a second--.  
In claim 45, line 6 "the second" should be change to --a second--.  
Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Double Patenting***

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See **In re Goodman**, 11

F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); **In re Longi**, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); **In re Van Ornum**, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); **In re Vogel**, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, **In re Thorington**, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 © may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

5. Claims 37-52 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2, 8-13, 19-20 and 26-31 of co-pending application No. 10/283,976. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims are directed to a data-mirroring by obtaining control from an I/O process, the I/O process processing a first I/O request, creating a second I/O request and returning control back to the I/O process. Note, each claim of the current invention is an obvious embodiment in light of the other claim in co-pending application 10/283,976.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the current invention was made, in light of the present claims, disclosure, to have applied the inventive concept thereof in order to have a method for data-mirroring as being

claimed in the co-pending application No. 10/283,976.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

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5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 37-38, 42, 45-46 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ohran (U.S. Patent No. 6526487).

As per claims 37-38 and 42, Ohran discloses a data-mirroring method **[obtaining mirrored data (see abstract)]** comprising: obtaining control from an I/O process on a host computer, the I/O process processing a first I/O request for writing data to a first device **[for each write request, a copy of the request is written into a delay buffer associated with the primary computer system (column 2, lines 42-43)]**; creating a second I/O request for writing the data to a second device **[transmitting a copy of the request to the backup computer system (column 2, line 44)]**; and returning control to the I/O process **[the backup computer system informs the primary computer**

**system by sending a signal and the primary computer system executes the write request in the delay buffer (column 2, lines 46-53)].**

As per claims 45-46 and 50, claims 45-46 and 50 encompass the same scope of the invention as those of claims 37-38 and 42 in addition of a computer-readable medium having software for executing the method steps of claims 37-38 and 42.

Therefore, claims 45-46 and 50 are rejected for the same reasons as stated above with respect to claims 37-38 and 42.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 39-41, 43-44, 47-49 and 51-52 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### ***Conclusion***

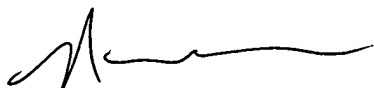
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser G Moazzami whose telephone number is (571) 272-4195. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**NASSER MOAZZAMI**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**



04/07/2005